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Note. — Members are urged to verify times of departure of trains owing to possible changes in time-tables. The excursion on October 30 will be the last of the season.

THE FIELD COMMITTEE,

NORMAN TAYLOR, Chairman

OF INTEREST TO TEACHERS

INSTRUCTIONS FOR RECORDING OBSERVATIONS ON FOREST TREES

Under the direction of the chief forester, Mr. Pinchot, the government Forest Service has issued a leaflet of instructions for recording observations on the leafing, flowering, and fruiting of forest trees. A sample sheet (form 416) is reproduced below. These are obtainable at the forestry department and should appeal to many now occupied in a desultory observation of the seasonal changes. In the schools, the flower, leaf, and fruit charts and records kept by some teachers would gain an added interest if these sheets were used, and the pupils knew of the government's recognition of the practical value of such work.

Form 416.

SPECIES

Period covered by observations.....

Name of observer.....

Residence.....
(State) (County) (Town)

General character of country. — *Mountains ; foothills ; plains ; river valley ; seacoast.*

Situation of trees. — *Level ; slope (north, east, west, south) ; hilltop ; river bottom ; soil (sandy, clayey, heavy, light, deep, shallow, moist, dry).*

(Please check the words which apply to your particular locality and to the trees observed.)

Approximate elevation above sea level.....

Location of nearest Weather Bureau station.....

State if season was wet or dry, early or late, etc.

DATE	DATE
1. <i>Swelling of buds</i>	8. <i>Beginning of leaf falling</i>
2. <i>Bursting of buds</i>	9. <i>Ending of leaf falling</i>
3. <i>Beginning of leafing out</i>	10. <i>Beginning of seed ripening</i>
4. <i>General leafing out</i>	11. <i>General seed ripening</i>
5. <i>Beginning of blossoming</i>	12. <i>Beginning of seed falling</i>
6. <i>General blossoming</i>	13. <i>General seed falling</i>
7. <i>Change in color of foliage</i>	
14. <i>Quantity of seed</i>	
15. <i>Quality of seed</i>	
General remarks.....	
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Professor W. W. Rowlee of Cornell University has been appointed chief examiner in botany on the college entrance examination board for next year.

A large collection of desert plants is still on exhibition in front of the main entrance to the Bronx Park conservatories. Those who have not yet seen this unusual garden will be surprised at the brilliant flowers exhibited by some of the plants. One of the so-called "century-plants" is also in bloom, bearing a flower stalk nearly twenty feet tall.

NEWS ITEMS

Dr. N. L. Britton left New York August 18 on the *Lusitania*, for a short visit to England.

Mr. W. W. Eggleston has recently completed a month's collecting trip in western Kentucky.

Georgia has appropriated \$10,000 for educational work at farmers' institutes in the state.